

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 E21B10/56 B22F7/06 B01J3/06 E21B10/00		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 E21B B22F B01J		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, COMPENDEX, INSPEC		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 00/38864 A (MFUMA LUCAS MTHANDENI ; MYBURGH JOHAN (ZA); FRIES ROBERT (ZA); SIGALAS) 6 July 2000 (2000-07-06) the whole document	1-8, 10-14
X	US 5 151 107 A (CHEN SY-HWA ET AL) 29 September 1992 (1992-09-29) example 1	1-4, 6-8, 10-14
X	US 5 096 465 A (CHEN SY-HWA ET AL) 17 March 1992 (1992-03-17) example 1	1-4, 6-8, 10-14
X	US 4 694 918 A (HALL DAVID R) 22 September 1987 (1987-09-22) column 6, lines 28-44	1-4, 6-8, 10-14
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents : <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>*A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>*E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>*L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>*P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>*T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>*X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>*Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.</p> <p>*&* document member of the same patent family</p> </div> </div>		
Date of the actual completion of the international search <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">22 December 2004</div>		Date of mailing of the international search report <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">03/01/2005</div>
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016		Authorized officer <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Raming, T</div>

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 326 380 A (YAO XIAN ET AL) 5 July 1994 (1994-07-05) column 7, lines 7-21; example 1 -----	1-3, 8, 11-14
X	US 5 288 297 A (RINGWOOD ALFRED E) 22 February 1994 (1994-02-22) example 1 -----	1-3, 8, 11-13

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